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The Mobile Register (Mobile, Alabama) · Fri, Jul 11, 1975 · Page 17
Downloaded on Jun 5, 2025

Gloria Swanson dedicates Stars Hall of Fame

DEDICATION — Actress Gloria Swanson, carnation in hand, poses for photographs after she helped dedicate the new $6-million Stars Hall of Fame attraction in Orlando. Behind Miss Swanson are lifelike figures of her, Eric von Stroheim, left, and William Holden in a memorable scene from the 1950 film, "Sunset Boulevard." Right is Joseph F. Prevratil, vice president of Six Flags, Inc. Also helping in Dedication were Glenn Ford, Cliff Robertson and his actress wife, Dina Merrill, and game show moderator Tom Kennedy. More than 800 persons attended the gala dedication.

Living Today
FAMILY LIFE WOMEN'S NEWS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Actress Gloria Swanson, whose beauty, charm and talent have bridged three generations of movie-goers, joined a host of show business luminaries and dignitaries from across the nation here to dedicate the new $6-million Stars Hall of Fame as a shrine to the world of entertainment.

Joining Miss Swanson in the star-studded, Hollywood-style premiere and dedication of the attraction Saturday night were Glenn Ford and his fiance, Cynthia Hayward, Cliff Robertson and his wife, actress Dina Merrill and popular quiz show moderator Tom Kennedy who was Master of Ceremonies. Robertson, Ford and Miss Swanson are enshrined in the Stars Hall of Fame in elaborate stage settings commemorating highlights from their film careers.

Two hundred stars of motion pictures, television and song are recreated on 100 different sets in Stars Hall of Fame, the newest attraction of Six Flags, Inc., largest amusement attractions operator in the United States.

More than 800 guests were on hand as Miss Swanson told them, "In our Dedication of the Stars Hall of Fame, the artists represented here honor it, too . . . they gave freely of themselves, their hearts, their passions and emotions to bring pleasure to all people of the world. They did so with a true and unsparing commitment to their craft.

"This building pays tribute to them and will keep the memory of their extraordinary contribution alive in human hearts for all time to come."

Following the dedication ceremony, Ford, Robertson and Miss Swanson toured Stars Hall of Fame and posed for photographers on their respective sets, "Teahouse of the August Moon," "PT-109" and "Sunset Boulevard".

Later, guests and stars had a lavish banquet in the Plaza of the Stars as searchlights stabbed the warm Florida night, punctuated by the sounds of aerial pyrotechnics, a 31-piece orchestra and the antics of costumed Keystone Kops.

The entire evening took on the glitter of a Hollywood premiere from its opening, when the stars stepped from their limousines and walked the plush red carpet through the throngs of applauding guests to the podium where they were introduced by Joseph F. Prevratil, Six Flags vice president.

Stars Hall of Fame, located on seven acres alongside Interstate 4 in Orlando, will be open every day of the year. The attraction is expected to draw about 700,000 persons during its first full year of operation.

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Jun 5, 2025

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